



8 FRAUD & ABUSE - PARTICIPANT
8.5 Repayment

Effective: 3/1/98

POLICY: Fraud and/or abuse of the WIC Program may result in paying back the cash amount of benefits received. Projects must request repayment in cases involving fraudulent receipt of WIC benefits, or abuse of WIC benefits.

PROCEDURE:

A. WHEN REPAYMENT IS REQUIRED

Refer to the Fraud/Abuse and Sanctions table in the table at the end of Policy 8.2 Participant Fraud and Abuse.

1. Dual participation
2. Fraudulent receipt of WIC benefits due to false information
3. Sale or exchange of WIC foods/drafts

B. REQUESTING REPAYMENTS

1. Send a Suspension/Repayment letter (see Policy 8.6 Notification of Actions) to the participant/participant caretaker describing the abuse or fraud and the request for repayment
2. Determine repayment schedule
 - a) Work with the participant or proxy to determine a reasonable repayment schedule, but within one year
 - b) Provide complete, written instruction to the participant or proxy on how to repay the WIC Program (i.e., check or money order made out to WISCONSIN WIC PROGRAM).
3. Repayments should be forwarded to the WIC Fiscal Manager at the State WIC Office
 - a) If the check or money order is made payable to the local WIC project or court agency, the document may be a) endorsed and signed over to the Wisconsin WIC Program, or b) deposited by the local WIC agency and an agency check written out to the Wisconsin WIC Program.



- b) Include a note or notation on the check that it is for participant repayment of benefits received during a specific (indicate) period.

C. TRACKING AND DEPOSITING REPAYMENTS

Local projects are responsible for tracking the repayments and balance.

1. Local projects must determine the amounts to be repaid and keep a record of payments made.
2. Participants must be notified when the full amount has been repaid.
3. Participants may be reinstated after serving the suspension period, as long as a regular repayment schedule has been initiated and continues and a new proxy is assigned (see 8.5 Suspension).
4. If repayment stops before fully paid, the participant/family shall be terminated.